

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 533. An act to clarify the rules governing removal of cases to Federal court, and for other purposes; and

S. 677. An act to repeal a redundant venue provision, and for other purposes.

U.N. CONTROL OF U.S. FORCES UNCONSCIONABLE

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, well, here we go again. Our President, without consulting the Congress, has allowed the United Nations to make a decision to bomb in Bosnia. It is going on as I speak. The U.S. F-18's, according to the press, are over there bombing. U.N. control of U.S. forces is unconscionable, without resorting to consent from the Congress. We did not declare war.

If one American life is lost because of these actions, I think it is a disgrace to American integrity.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize 10 Members from each side for 1-minute speeches.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING MUST BE PROVIDED FOR ALL AMERICANS

(Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, first I might start off the morning by hoping that all of our colleagues will perhaps say a prayer today for our esteemed colleague, JOE MOAKLEY, who has just been raised from critical to serious condition in the hospital after a liver transplant in Virginia. He is a terrific fellow, as we all know, and deserves our prayers and consideration this morning.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the action taken by the Committee on Appropriations last night in their 25-percent reduction in our Nation's housing funding.

We have decimated our Nation's housing funding over the course of the last week and a half. A week ago we cut \$7 billion out of the Nation's housing. Yesterday evening we cut an additional \$7 billion, 25 percent of the annual budget.

We take photo ops and give sound bites in front of the worst public housing, ignoring the fact that 90 percent of the public housing in this country is in good, decent shape and providing affordable housing for the poorest, most vulnerable people in this country.

Let us stand for something in this country. Let us not conduct a war on the poor. Let us conduct a war on pov-

erty. That is what we need, and that is where we should be headed.

SELLING POLITICAL FAVORS

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, while Republicans are working to fulfill their promise of changing business as usual in Washington, liberal Democrats have their sights set on campaign 1996.

The Clinton White House has begun campaign efforts by starting their own version of the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes. Instead of buying chances at winning the million dollar grand prize, big Clinton campaign contributors are buying chances at winning big White House favors.

In this political game, grand prize contributors of \$100,000 win two dinners with President Clinton, two receptions with Vice President AL GORE, plus, their very own spot on a foreign trade mission with business and party leaders.

They have yet to confirm if Ed McMahon will announce the winners of these special White House perks.

UNITED STATES SHOULD RENEW DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM

(Mr. PETERSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today the President will announce the renewal of diplomatic relations to Vietnam. I applaud these efforts. It is time.

For the record, I spent 6½ years as a POW in Vietnam. I know about as much about Vietnam as anyone in the House. I am convinced that these efforts will enhance our search for the fate of the missing MIA's. We have made significant progress over the last 4 years in our joint efforts with the Vietnamese, searching all over Vietnam, with access to prisons, access to virtually anyone on the street, and certainly access to their archives. We have sincere, trustworthy, and competent people working together in Vietnam in this effort.

But now we are at a point if we do not renew diplomatic relations, the Vietnamese could unilaterally just say get out of here, we quit. We do not want to lose the progress we have made. It is time for diplomatic relations. It is time to move on, with the world bringing Vietnam into the League of Nations.

ADMINISTRATION'S NEW VIETNAM POLICY IS WRONG

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today is a very, very sad day for America, but it is an even sadder day for American families who are waiting word on loved ones that have been designated as MIA's or POW's in Vietnam. The policy of normalizing relations with Vietnam, which will be announced today by the President of the United States, is a slap in the face at those families who are waiting word on their loved ones.

This is not a correct policy, this is a wrong policy, and until the Government of Vietnam comes forward and accounts for all of those who have been missing in action or designated as POW's, we should not normalize relations with Vietnam. We should not do it for economic reasons. That is the worst reason to do it. What we should be saying to them is "give us a full accounting." We owe it to the people who have lost their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all Americans will speak out against this.

A FEDERAL INVESTIGATION OF WACO FIASCO NEEDED

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the fiasco of Waco, TX, commando raids, machine guns, tear gas, bulldozers, loud music, the recorded screams of dying rabbits all night, young children, 90 dead. And any Federal agent could honestly testify that David Koresh could have been arrested without incident, without harm, without force, any morning he jogged outside that camp, every single morning.

The truth is, the Federal agencies wanted a media milestone. The Federal agencies instead ended up with a media massacre. Yes, there must be a congressional investigation. There must be. Waco screams out louder than the recorded screams of those dying rabbits for a congressional investigation. The Federal agencies earned it, they deserve it.

Mr. Speaker, let us get on with our business.

CHANGING THE STATUS QUO

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, since taking control of Congress, the Republican Party has stayed focused on the commitment we made with the American people—to change the status quo. While the Democrats are playing politics by creating a "buyers market" for the White House, we are trying to save and protect Medicare for senior citizens and for future generations.

Our plan abolishes the one-size-fits-all plan, designed over 30 years ago. We replace it with a program that allows senior citizens to have the same health care choices as other Americans.

Also, the well-documented waste and fraud of the Medicare system, will be